

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS



For Week Ending May 24, 1998

Issue: 12-98

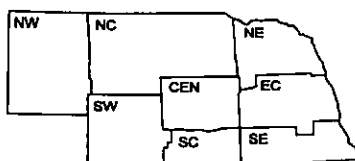
Released: 5/26/98 - 3:00 p.m.

P O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

Phone. (402) 437-5541
Location 273 Federal Bldg

Internet <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/index.htm>
e-mail nass-ne@nass.usda.gov

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U S Department of Agriculture
and U S Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

The week was warm and rainy. Temperatures averaged two to seven degrees above normals. Rainfall across the State averaged from four tenths of an inch in the southeast to just over two inches in the central part of the State.

GENERAL

Nebraska producers made excellent planting progress until widespread rains limited activities, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. However, dry conditions continued to exist in many southern tier counties bordering the state of Kansas. Additional moisture is needed there to improve germination and boost wheat crop prospects. Other producer activities consisted of summer fallow tillage, grain marketing, and working of cattle.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was virtually unchanged from last week and rated 2% very poor, 9% poor, 25% fair, 56% good and 8% excellent. As of Sunday, 89% of the crop had jointed, ahead of 78% last year but behind 91% average. Wheat headed advanced to 30%, considerably ahead of 12% last year, and 15% average. Wheat producers in portions of Garden and Deuel counties experienced extensive damage to wheat fields from hail that occurred last week.

Corn planting moved to 99% complete, ahead of both 97% last year and 86% for the five-year average. Crop emergence

CROPS (Cont.)

rated 85%, well ahead of 64% last year and 50% average. Corn condition rated 1% poor, 15% fair, 61% good, and 23% excellent. Some producers were reporting reduced stands due to wire worm damage.

Soybean planting progressed to 80% complete, ahead of 70% last year and 42% average. The crop was 33% emerged compared with 16% last year and 12% average. Reports in the eastern parts of the State indicated bean leaf beetle in earlier planted fields.

Sorghum planting advanced to 62%, equal to last year but ahead of 34% average. The crop was 17% emerged compared with 10% last year and 6% average.

Dry bean planting got underway last week with 8% in the ground as of Sunday. This compared with 4% last year and 5% average.

Oats condition rated 3% poor, 17% fair, 62% good, and 18% excellent.

Alfalfa condition rated 3% poor, 21% fair, 61% good and 15% excellent. The first cutting was 4% complete compared with 1% last year and 3% average. Wild hay condition rated 6% poor, 21% fair, 56% good, and 17% excellent.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 5% poor, 23% fair, 62% good, and 10% excellent. Rainfall received last week aided grass growth. Cattle were being moved to summer pastures. Last week's rainfall caused muddy feedlots in central parts of the State.

CROP PROGRESS AS OF MAY 24, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Planted	99	96	99	99	99	98	99	100	99	95	97	86
% Corn Emerged	84	80	83	86	82	74	90	93	85	49	64	50
% Wheat Jointed	79	96	100	92	99	100	100	98	89	72	78	91
% Wheat Headed	11	17	29	12	28	44	43	70	30	1	12	15
% Sorghum Planted	n/a	71	25	60	47	56	65	65	62	29	62	34
% Sorghum Emerged	n/a	34	4	4	15	17	19	17	17	n/a	10	6
% Soybeans Planted	n/a	66	76	83	78	71	92	85	80	52	70	42
% Soybeans Emerged	n/a	35	24	23	28	26	43	50	33	n/a	16	12
% Dry Beans Planted	5	12	35	10	n/a	25	n/a	n/a	8	n/a	4	5
% Alfalfa First Cutting	0	1	2	2	3	0	20	15	4	n/a	1	3
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 22, 1998												
Days suitable	48	35	40	40	30	47	61	58	44	56	63	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	0	0	0	0	11	3	1	1	3	9	
(Percent) - Short	33	0	8	6	1	25	25	32	16	25	58	
- Adequate	61	64	86	88	74	62	70	67	71	67	33	
- Surplus	6	36	6	6	25	2	2	0	12	5	0	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	2	4	0	0	0	8	2	0	2	3	1	
(Percent) - Short	15	16	8	2	4	36	13	1	11	13	22	
- Adequate	83	71	91	92	87	56	84	93	82	77	76	
- Surplus	0	9	1	6	9	0	1	6	5	7	1	

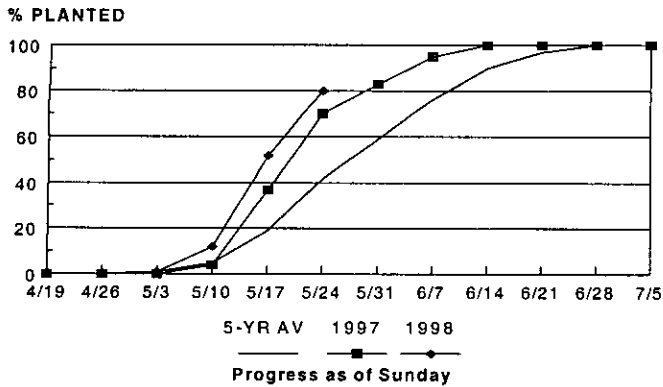
n/a = not available.

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P O Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P O Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

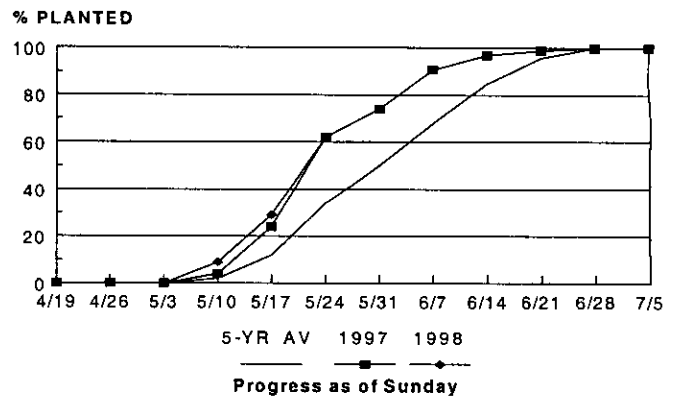
NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

Periodical Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

SOYBEANS PLANTED



SORGHUM PLANTED



PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 23, 1998

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.61	1.72	1.42	2.04	1.81	1.81	.70	.39
Total since April 1	3.28	4.87	6.90	5.94	7.46	3.75	4.60	3.74
Normal since April 1	4.07	4.65	5.26	5.15	5.86	4.33	5.01	5.82
Total as % of normal	81%	105%	131%	115%	127%	87%	92%	64%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, MAY 23, 1998

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	88	42	62	---	.75	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	88	41	63	+6	.91	84	359	309
	Sidney	86	39	62	---	.96	58	322	311
NC	Valentine	91	45	61	+2	1.96	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	86	342	340
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	146	374	361
NE	Norfolk	90	53	69	+7	1.87	---	---	---
	Sioux City	91	54	68	+5	1.33	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	212	434	366
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	179	402	362
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	215	453	379
CEN	Grand Island	89	51	68	+5	3.18	167	430	377
	Ord	89	55	68	---	2.58	157	405	370
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	148	433	375
EC	Lincoln	92	54	70	+6	2.03	221	486	405
	Omaha	90	56	69	+6	1.56	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	181	448	378
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	220	448	395
SW	Imperial	92	48	67	---	80	---	---	---
	North Platte	90	43	65	+6	1.27	101	398	351
	Curtis	---	---	---	---	---	121	418	367
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	150	442	375
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	214	506	376
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	194	464	405
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	174	451	378

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp + min. temp divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.